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great scheme of pushing the work of educating in peace principles the boys and girls in our public schools.

RUTH H. SPRAY.

Salida, Colorado.

Editor of the Advocate of Peace:

In an article which you published two or three months ago, I expressed my regret that it was almost impossible to find a school history which did not glorify war and subordinate all the events which it recorded to military occurrences. A reader of the Advocate wrote to me calling my attention to the school histories of Prof. Allen C. Thomas of Haverford College, Pa., and I have since procured them, one for middle grades and one for upper grades. I would like to direct the attention of your readers particularly to his larger "History of the United States," for the higher grades. For, while it does not depart sufficiently from the prevailing standards to offend old-fashioned boards of education, it occasionally allows the truth to show itself between the lines. For instance, in a note it quotes General Grant's opinion of the Mexican War, namely, that it was "one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger against a weaker nation." shows that the moral tone of the country was lowered as a result of the Civil War, and it presents, as a historical fact, the criticisms made by anti-imperialists against the Spanish and Philippine Wars. This is a good beginning, and deserves the support of all lovers of peace. I suggest that we bring this history to the notice of school principals and trustees wherever the opportunity may present itself. It is published by D. C. Heath & Co. of Boston and forms an admirable substitute for the ordinary collections of blood-and-thunder fables which masquerade under the title of American History in our schools, and which are, in fact, rather hysterical than Yours truly, historical.

ERNEST H. CROSBY.

RHINEBECK, N. Y.

The British Friends and the Prime Minister.

A very interesting correspondence has taken place between the British Friends' Yearly Meeting and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman on the subject of reduction of armaments. The recent Yearly Meeting sent, through its Clerk, Henry Lloyd Wilson, the following address to the new Prime Minister:

"In considering the subject of peace, we have taken note, with thankfulness, of the utterances of the Prime Minister and other members of the government in favor of a reduction of our military and naval expenditure, and we desire to express our earnest wish, first, that some substantial reduction in this expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, second, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

"We believe that the evidence of increasing goodwill between the nations, and the proved capacity of the arbitral methods established by the Hague Convention to resolve questions of great international delicacy, as also the appalling revelation of what modern war involves afforded by the Russo-Japanese conflict, make the present an opportune time for endeavoring by friendly agreement to relieve the crushing burden of armaments. We are convinced that the cultivation of goodwill between nations and the steadfast adherence to the policy of brotherliness and justice will more and more be recognized as the surest national defense, and that the policy of huge armaments is subversive of these natural relations of friendship, and often proves a direct provocation to war."

To this address the Prime Minister's Secretary sent the following cordial and sympathetic reply:

To the Secretary of the Society of Friends:

Sir: The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for the minute of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, in which the earnest wish of the meeting is expressed that some substantial reduction in military and naval expenditure may be carried out with as little delay as possible, and, further, that the government may secure the introduction into the program of the forthcoming Hague Conference of the subject of the limitation of armaments.

In view of the opinions expressed by the Prime Minister and his colleagues, it is hardly necessary to repeat that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is in complete and cordial sympathy with these objects, towards the realization of which His Majesty's government are taking all the steps that lie in their power.

The Prime Minister is glad to know that in their endeavors to promote peace and goodwill among the nations the government will have the coöperation of an agency so powerful for good as that of the Society of Friends. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant, VAUGHAN NASH.

10 Downing Street, Whitehall, S. W., May 31, 1906.

Mr. Carnegie on Reduction of Armaments.

The *Tribune* publishes an interesting interview with Mr. Carnegie on his recent arrival in London, from which we extract the following passage:

"Question: The Tribune has been fighting to have the question of armaments, in which we know you are interested, brought before the second Hague Conference. Do you favor the idea of a second Peace Crusade for this purpose, and would you be willing to help by coöperating in the United States? And also, perhaps, by paying a visit to us over here and appearing upon European platforms in support of the movement?

"Answer: I am delighted with the Prime Minister's position on this question, and am certain President Roosevelt would play a prominent part, as he did between Russia and Japan, if opportunity offered. Congress approved this session building only one battleship, needed to keep the present fleet efficient. This is now the policy of the United States — I think one hundred

and thirteen votes, or perhaps it was one hundred and thirty-three, were cast even against one. This appears to me the psychological moment for nations to come to an understanding not to increase present forces, army or navy - and by and by to decrease.

" Question: What of Mr. Bartholdt's proposal to defer the building of a battleship if the Hague Conference should suggest settlement of disputes by arbitration?

"Answer: That commanded a surprisingly large vote. By all means, we should ask the coming Conference to take up the subject. An International Commission might be appointed, charged to investigate and report to the powers what, in their opinion, each should do in order to keep present fleets only relatively as strong as now, and in what way reduce them, keeping each relatively as strong. The powers to reserve the right to act as deemed proper. One advance we may expect from the coming Conference - immunity of private property at sea, now that Britain favors it. Another, I hope, is to be a declaration that speculative claims or any business claims of promoters in foreign lands are no longer to be collected by governments; that private investors abroad must take accompanying risks.

" Question: Will you kindly repeat your views as to the putting of the peace movement upon a business basis; especially will you please tell us of your intentions in regard to the Palace of Peace at The Hague; and generally give us any suggestions you have for the furtherance of the cause of international arbitration and an arrest of armaments?

"Answer: I think that our President, representing a country outside the vortex of militarism, which has no territorial ambitions, and has nothing to fear, having not one enemy in the world, is the most available potentate for proposing to other powers a reduction of armaments. All would know that America is not financially pressed - on the contrary, no nation ever increased in wealth or population as America is now increasing; also, that America has no desire for additional foreign possessions, nor need for them. President Roosevelt would be listened to. I hope he is meditating such a service to the world."

ADDRESSES AT THE TWELFTH ANNUAL MOHONK CONFERENCE ON INTER-NATIONAL ARBITRATION.

Armaments and the "Next War."

OPENING ADDRESS OF HON. JOHN W. FOSTER, PRESIDENT.

Ladies and Gentlemen: We congratulate ourselves on the assembling of the twelfth annual Conference on International Arbitration to-day with the reign of peace among all the nations of the earth. At former meetings there have been in progress the Japanese-Chinese and the Spanish-American wars, the Philippine insurrection, the Boer war, the Boxer outbreak in China, the British expedition to Tibet, and the great Russo-Japanese war. The temple of Janus now stands closed. Let us hope its votaries may have no occasion to open it in our day.

The hopeful promise now is, not only that peace reigns, but that the nations are striving to preserve peace. The third meeting of the American States is about to occur at Rio de Janeiro to concert measures for greater harmony in their work of developing commerce, industry, intelligence and justice. And it is proposed that this assembly in the Western Hemisphere shall be followed soon by another Conference of all the nations of the world at The Hague in the interest of peace and humanity. The gratifying feature of this second Conference in Europe is that it is responded to with alacrity by all the governments, in striking contrast with the hesitation and jealousy which marked the first convocation. Another interesting feature is that while twenty-six governments were represented at the Conference of 1899, forty-seven have been invited to participate in the second Peace Conference, including all the American States and Ethiopia. It will be the first time in the history of the human race when all the independent nations have come together to confer on their mutual interests. Verily the world is moving on towards the

era of peace and goodwill among men.

With this inspiring picture before us, I regret to have to direct your attention to another phase of the coming World's Congress which is not so encouraging. The main object of the first Hague Conference was expressly set forth in the program to be the limitation of the armaments of the nations. Of late the Emperor of Russia has been the subject of severe criticism, and even of malediction. I am pleased to say that too much praise cannot be bestowed upon his rescript convoking the Conference of 1899. No more forcible statement has ever been published of the economic evils of war and of the unwisdom and hurtful effects of the maintenance of the vast armies and navies of the great powers of Europe. I have no doubt that the Czar at that time sincerely desired that a limitation might be placed upon these extravagant and dangerous expenditures, but the Conference did not have the courage or the will to meet this mighty issue. We have the authority of one of the prominent members of that body, Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, for the statement made recently in the French Senate, that the Conference in "its first purpose had failed. . . . But all was not lost. . . . From fear of offending public opinion and lest it end in complete failure, the permanent arbitration court was created, and in spite of the tacit dislike which at first crippled it, it has begun to live. . . . On the initiative of President Roosevelt, the Hague Court, boycotted by Europe, was set on its feet

Happily, the boycott of Europe did not extend to America, and M. de Constant justly gives the credit to President Roosevelt for having saved the Conference from complete failure. However great may be the other services of our President to his country and mankind, I believe that history will record this act as his worthiest claim to lasting fame.

The first call for the Second Peace Conference was issued during the progress of the Russo-Japanese war by President Roosevelt, but after its close the Emperor of Russia asked and was accorded the privilege of sending out the formal convocation. The discouraging feature of it to which I have alluded is that in the program of subjects to be considered the limitation of armaments has not been included. It was hardly to be expected that this measure would be suggested by the power whose armies so recently had been driven